

Amendments to the Claim:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A recombinant, prototrophic micro-organism exhibiting an increased level of galactose uptake rate when cultured on a nutrient source providing galactose, said micro-organism being a yeast or other fungi having the ability to grow on minimal medium and over expressing the activity of an enzyme catalysing the conversion of glucose-1 phosphate to glucose-6 phosphate in the galactose uptake and metabolism pathway compared to a reference micro-organism having a native level of activity of said enzyme and from which the recombinant micro-organism is derived, wherein said over expression of said enzyme activity (1) is due to said micro-organism having multiple copies of a gene coding for said enzyme and/or (2) is due to a gene coding for the said enzyme being under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced and which is not natively associated with said gene.

2 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, wherein said micro-organism is a yeast and said enzyme is a phosphoglucomutase.

3 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, wherein said enzyme is encoded by *PGM2*.

4 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, wherein said enzyme activity is expressed in the micro-organism at a level which is 1.5 or more times that of said reference micro-organism.

5 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, having multiple copies of a gene coding for the said enzyme.

6 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, wherein a gene coding for the said enzyme is under the control of a genetic control sequence which has been recombinantly introduced and which is not natively associated with said gene,

leading to said over expression of said enzyme activity.

7 (cancelled).

8 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 2, which is a *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strain.

9 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, which exhibits an increase of maximum specific galactose uptake rate of at least 10% in comparison to a said reference micro-organism.

10 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, which exhibits an increase of said enzyme activity of at least 2 fold in comparison to a said reference micro-organism.

11 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 1, which exhibits an increased maximum specific ethanol production rate compared to said reference micro-organism.

12 (original). A micro-organism as claimed in claim 10, wherein said ethanol production is increased by at least a factor of 1.5.